

**EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP  
HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
May 9, 2007  
SCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES**

**Attendance:** Gail Brown (Chairman), Mary E. Brower (Vice Chairman), Phyllis Snyder (Member), Ann Keen (Member), Elaine Preston (Secretary), Lynn Coine (Member), Roy Kolb (Planning Commission Liaison) absent

Meeting called to order 7:00PM

**Minutes**

Time was taken at this point to read minutes.

M. Brower motioned to accept the minutes of April 11, 2007 with corrections

L. Coine seconded the motion

The motion was unanimously approved.

**Public Comment**

No Visitors

**Subdivision and Land Development**

**Neuman Subdivision**

- Tabled until revised plans received. To be discussed at next meeting.

**Wine berry Estates (National Register Listed, Eligible – Class I Township)**

- G. Brown passed out the following documents in relation to the Historical reviews of Wineberry Estates (Daniel H. Kulp Farm).
  - 1) Letter from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) to DelVal Soil and Environmental Consultants, Inc., dated February 1, 2006
  - 2) Letter from the PHMC to Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc., dated August 12, 2005
  - 3) Letter from the PHMC to Conver & Smith Engineering, Inc., dated January 12, 2006
  - 4) Letter from the East Coventry Township Historical Commission to the Board of Supervisors, dated April 1, 2007
  - 5) Memorandum to Wineberry Estates from the East Coventry Township Historical Commission, dated April 18, 2007
  - 6) Letter from Conver and Smith Engineering, Inc. to the PHMC dated April 19, 2007

- 7) Fax from Conver and Smith Engineering, Inc. to the East Coventry Historical Commission dated May 8, 2007 (attached letter to Conver and Smith Engineering, Inc. from the PHMC, dated May 1, 2007 – cc: W. Atlee Rinehart, East Coventry Twp., 855 Ellis Woods Rd., Pottstown, PA 19465

Summary: The first three letters referenced above represent letters to various representatives of Wineberry Estates, two (2) letters had not been replied to as requested by the PHMC. Item #4 details the lack of response by Wineberry Estates representatives. Item #5 documents a conversation between G. Brown, East Coventry Historical Commission and Mr. Mark Shaffer, PHMC, Division of Archaeology & Protection. Recommendation from the East Coventry Historical Commission to the Board of Supervisors to withhold Preliminary Plan approval until all requirements have been met to the satisfaction of the PHMC. Item #6 is Conver and Smiths response to the PHMC, as requested (NOTE: Six (6) documents were forwarded, did not include the Historical Resources Impact Study dated January 9, 2007, prior to the March 6, 2007 revision, and did not include the Landscape Architects Plans.) Item #7 is a fax, dated May 8, 2007, from Conver & Smith Engineering, Inc. which forwarded a copy of the PHMC's response to the Conver and Smith letter of April 19, 2007, one (1) day after the Board of Supervisors meeting of May 7, 2007. Also, note, at the April 16, 2007 meeting of the Board of Supervisors the following resolution was approved by motion by the Board of Supervisors: A Landscape Architect is to work the 410' (section to be removed) stone wall into the landscapes in a structural manner and keep the stone on the original (Maack Road) side of the road.

The May 1, 2007, letter from PHMC states as follows:

"In our opinion this project will have an effect on the Daniel H. Kulp Farm, eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Furthermore, it is our opinion that this project will adversely affect the historic and architectural qualities that make the property eligible. We recommend that you seek ways to preserve the stone wall and develop additional landscaping to screen the new construction from the historic buildings."

At the May 7, 2007, meeting of the Board of Supervisors, both the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and the engineer for Conver and Smith were in receipt of the May 1, 2007 letter from the PHMC. G. Brown, asked if one of these gentlemen would care to share this letter with the Historical Commission. The engineer for Conver and Smith responded he would fax a copy the next day, which he did. The Historical Commission, to date, has not received a copy from the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. When it was apparent the Historical Commission was not in receipt of this information, the attorney representing Wineberry Estates, stepped forward and claimed great financial burden and the impossibility to calculate the reuse of the stone into the landscaping. The engineer stated he did not know the width of this retaining wall. G. Brown responded he did, as there is break in the wall presumably made for farm equipment access, which gives a cross section. G. Brown stated the Historical Commission is not expecting a calculation to the last stone, but a reasonable reuse

calculation which any engineer should be able to perform and provide detail on the drawings.

The Board of Supervisors allowed that the developer, Gambone, does not have to show the reuse of the 410' section of the stone removed from the wall on the landscape drawings, prior to use.

The Historical Commission was not supplied with a copy of the May 1, 2007 letter from the PHMC prior to the meeting or provided with the letter for review at the meeting of May 7, 2007. Therefore, the Historical Commission was not sufficiently informed, and unable to address the issue. Not only was leniency given to the resolution of the "April 16, 2007 Board of Supervisors motion, but the recommendation from the PHMC (which was more astringent than the Historical Commission recommendation) was not addressed at all. Therefore, as a result of the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors failure to communicate and support the Historical Commission, one of the four (4) properties on the National Register of Historic Places in East Coventry Township is in jeopardy of continuing to meet eligibility requirements.

- G. Brown passed out Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) package containing the following:
  - 1) Instruction for Completing Cultural Resource Notice
  - 2) DEP Policies and Procedures Implementation or the History Code List of Exemptions – May 2006
  - 3) Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's (PHMC) Time Frames
  - 4) Cultural Resource Notice Form
  - 5) Request to Initiate Consultation in Compliance with the State History Code and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
  - 6) Licensing/Permit Questionnaire
  - 7) Types of DEP Licenses/Permits
  - 8) Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Organizational ChartAll Historical Commission members have been requested to read and study these requirements.

### **Hidden Acres Estates**

- G. Brown will review the new plans

### **2008 Calendars**

- M. Brower reported on the cost of the bids for the 2008 Calendar

<u>Name of Company</u>	<u>250 Calendars</u>	<u>50 Calendar</u>	<u>100 Calendars</u>
Bentley	\$1,640.00	\$597.00	\$654.00
P&F Printing & Graphic Design	\$1,445.00	\$212.50	\$425.00

Zap Digital, Inc.	\$ 875.00	\$117.00	\$234.00
-------------------	-----------	----------	----------

The Historical Commission recommends the lowest bidder Zap Digital, Inc.

- L. Coine, per telephone conversation, Monday, May 7, 2007, confirmed the total costs for scans on the ZAP bid were \$65.00 total
- The cost of the calendar was discussed and it was decided that we will decide on the cost of the calendar after we see the finished product.
- E. Preston is to write letters to the three bidders and thank them for their efforts.
- The calendar credits Mr. William (Bill) Carl, Mr. Paul Frick, and Mrs. Anne Keen.
- M. Brower read the disclaimer. After discussion, the disclaimer was slightly edited. M. Brower to compose edited disclaimer.

### **Discussion Items**

- G. Brown requested if anyone was interested in volunteering in helping our surrounding communities with the 2007 Town Tours and Village Walks. E. Preston and L. Coine said they would be interested if they were available.
- G. Brown announced that the Board of Supervisors next Zoning Workshop Meeting, May 14, 2007, will include Article XII.
- P. Snyder and A. Keen have been working to identify all properties on the Estelle Cremers list. Spelling of owners' names, location on old map and mailing addresses have presented obstacles. Street addresses have been added and changed, and absentee owners and owners of multiple properties all make this project more labor intensive. One hundred thirty-four properties have been verified to date. G. Brown will contact the Chester County Planning Commission to discuss the possibility of reviewing their maps to complete this project.
- G. Brown noted that the Chester County Parks and Recreation web page, along with individual parks web pages, is a great place for families to check to see what the County is offering in the way of summer programs for children. We need to develop contacts to distribute this information. Possibly an expanded township website. P. Snyder to find out the names of the officers of the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) for possible contacts.
- G. Brown asked the Historical Commission members to start considering a subject for the 2009 Historical Commission calendar. G.I. houses; 1851 to 1900 houses; outbuildings – i.e., smokehouses, ice houses, bake houses, etc.; and an outhouse II calendar were all suggested.

### **Adjournment**

P. Snyder motioned to adjourn the meeting  
M. Brower seconded the motion  
The motion was approved unanimously

The meeting was adjourned 9:00PM

Respectfully submitted

Elaine C. Preston  
Secretary  
East Coventry Township Historical Commission